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## *JUDICIAL PROFILE*

**Robert D. Myers** was appointed to the Superior Court Bench in Maricopa County in July 1989. He is currently the Presiding Judge, overseeing all trial courts within Maricopa County, including Superior, Municipal, and Justice of the Peace courts. Judge Myers has had an unusually rapid rise among court leadership ranks since joining the bench. Within a few years of his appointment, he was designated presiding judge of the court's 20-judge Civil Department, nationally renowned for its "fast-track" caseload system. In 1993, he was selected as the presiding judge of the Probate & Mental Health Department, and quickly embarked on various improvements including widespread automation, staff reorganization, lobbying for new laws, overseeing private fiduciaries, and increasing department revenues. In 1995, the Supreme Court appointed him the Presiding Judge for Maricopa County, the highest job for a trial court judge in the County. He is only the 11th person to serve in that capacity since statehood.



Judge Myers received the Maricopa County Bar Association's Henry S. Stevens Award for Judicial Excellence for 1999 for "outstanding service to the legal profession through activities in the judiciary, participation in the MCBA and service to the community to improve the legal system, the legal profession and professionalism of the bench and the bar." He is a past president of the Maricopa County Bar Association, and both the Arizona and Western Trial Lawyers Associations. He served on the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Arizona and the Legal Aid Society. He served as Chairman of the Professional Liability Committee of the American Bar Association's Litigation Section. He was the Chairman of the Arizona Supreme Court's Committee on Bar Examination, Character Fitness. In 1986, he was awarded the American Judicature Society's Special Merit Citation for his work on the Delay Reduction Project of the Arizona Court of Appeals. He has served as President of Valley Big Brothers and Chairman of the Mayor's Drug Abuse Advisory Committee (Phoenix). Judge Myers has lectured extensively on trial and court practices, and on various mental health and probate subjects. He received his B.A. in history from the University of Massachusetts and his J.D. from Boston University School of Law. He currently serves on several of the Arizona Supreme Court's Committees: Civil Litigation Abuse, Cost and Delay, Jury Reform, and Commission on Minorities. He is a founding Fellow of both the Arizona Bar Foundation and the Roscoe Pound Foundation. He is a former counselor and past president of the Sandra Day O'Connor Inn of Court.